

THE DAILY SENTINEL

In and About Sitka

Sportsman's Assn. reveals plans to clean up, stock Swan Lake

Sitka Sportsman's Association hosted a luncheon at Revards Wednesday for representatives of different organizations for the purpose of talking about the cleaning up of Swan Lake.

Organizations represented were the city, borough, Chamber of Commerce, JC's, Lions Club, American Legion, Elks, Moose, Alpera, Sheldon Jackson School of Natural Resources, KIFW, KSEW, Daily Sentinel and Juneau Empire. Special guests attended, among them Larry Heckert of the State Fish and Game department. Larry is a biologist stationed here.

President Larry Downie immediately turned the meeting over to Lloyd Gamble who is the Sportsman chairman for the Swan Lake project. Gamble asked that each organization appoint a representative to attend all meetings to keep up on progress and further developments. After much discussion, Lloyd Gamble called for another meeting to be held at the Centennial Building next Tuesday, with high hopes that they and all interested persons attend.

Larry Heckert told the people that the Fish & Game Department are ready to get rid of all fish in the lake at this time, poison the lake, and then restock it with Rainbows which they say is the best growing fish for a lake of this size. He continued that lillies and other vegetable life in the lake should either be poisoned or reduced because of the fact that the oxygen is eaten up by this growth and when frozen over, there is very little oxygen left for the fish to survive.

This could either be done by total poisoning or by cutting below the water line in the spring, before the plants begin to grow in numbers. To completely get rid of this growth is almost impossible, so it should be curtailed as much as possible.

Mr. Heckert said that the size of the lake is about 22 acres,

and should hold a good supply of trout. The depth of the lake is no problem as long as there is enough oxygen in the lake during the winter months. The depth is from 11 and 12 feet in the middle and around the edges it is shallow. If this is done, it should be done next spring which would then make the fish available for catching by the summer of 1970.

To further the planning of Swan Lake, the city was represented by mayor Richard Eliason, Guy Kasnick, Charles Olson and Fermin Gutierrez. Mr Gutierrez was very cooperative and also suggested that Lake Street be developed at this time, with a possibility of extending a hard bottom out into the lake for possible swimming and wading by younger people. This would permit cleaning up that side of the lake.

At a later date, there is a possibility of Moller Park being extended down to the lake for picnic and recreation. At this point it was also recommended that all landowners along the shore line should clean up their frontage and do some landscaping.

It was a good start and the Sportsman's Association expressed their thanks to all the people who helped them get this started and also for all the interest shown to date.

High of 63 Wednesday

High temperature Wednesday was 63 degrees, followed by an overnight low of 51 degrees. At 9 a.m. this morning the reading at the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey station was 54.

Precipitation for the 24-hour period was .02 inches. Barometer climbed a bit to read 30.24 this morning.